

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

AID-05 SY-05 CU-02 OPR-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 /066 W

----- 125788

O R 212005Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9178

INFO PANCANAL

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 6554

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PN

SUBJECT: PANAMA CITY QUIET

1. AS OF 11:00 A.M. THE EMBASSY HAS HAD NO REPORTS OF DISTURBANCES. THE UNIVERSITY IS CLOSED, AND AT 8:00 A.M. STREET CREWS WERE CLEANING UP THE STONES, BROKEN GLASS, SCATTERED GARBAGE, AND OTHER EVIDENCE OF YESTERDAY'S DISTURBANCES.

2. IT IS STILL DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO TOOK PART IN THE DISTURBANCES, BUT 500 WOULD SEEM TO BE A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE. SIMILARLY, WE HAVE NO RELIABLE FIGURES ON ARRESTS, BUT THE NUMBER IS SURELY MORE THAN 100. WE HAVE RELIABLE REPORTS THAT A CAMP FOR THE STUDENTS HAS BEEN SET UP AT OLD PANAMA, IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF PANAMA CITY. THE EMBASSY CONTINUES TO RECEIVE RATHER EXCITING AND BIZARRE REPORTS OF THE CHASE BETWEEN STUDENTS AND NATIONAL GUARD FOLLOWING THE BREAKUP OF THE STUDENT MARCH YESTERDAY NOON. SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT MANY STUDENTS WERE ROUGHED UP CONSIDERABLY, BUT WE HAVE NO CONFIRMED REPORTS OF SERIOUS INJURY.

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EM THE MORNING PRESS CONTINUED ABOUT AS IT HAS FOR THE PAST
THREE DAYS, WITH SOME SNIPING AT THE UNITED STATES AND PERSONS
LIVING IN THE ZONE. A FEW OF THE MOST DEPENDABLY ANTI-YANKEE
JOURNALISTS ARE STILL BLAMING THE TROUBLES ON US; BUT THE
GOVERNMENT HAS AVOIDED PUBLICLY REPEATING ITS ACCUSATIONS OF
LAST WEEK.
JORDEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Authority: blochd0
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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